

BIG VETERANS' MEMORIAL BUILDING FOR TORRANCE IS CONSIDERED BY CITY

Plans for a veterans' memorial building for Torrance, to contain meeting places and recreational facilities for the community, have been laid before the City Council and have been favorably received. At a conference of the Council on Monday night, Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, presented the plans to the council on behalf of local veterans groups, the chamber and the Retail Merchants division of the chamber.

A big structure, with meeting halls and space for recreation events for the community, would be constructed on three city-owned lots in the civic center, at the corner of El Prado and Cravens ave.

Financing of the building would be by federal, state and county aid, with the city donating the land and aiding in the cost of the building through bond issue. Government and county funds are available for such a structure, it was said.

Presentation of the building plans sounded the end of the proposal to construct a memorial tower at El Prado park in memory of veterans of this and the last war.

The building, it was pointed out, would serve a finer purpose and be a more fitting tribute to the memory of the soldiers of World War I and II who gave their lives to their country.

"Almost every community in California has a veterans memorial building, paid for, for the most part, by government funds," Lewis said. "Torrance can have and should have the finest one."

As agreed upon by the members of the council present, the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$200,000, and the building would contain assembly rooms, club rooms, offices, a kitchen, a gymnasium, swimming pool, Boy Scout room, roof garden with badminton and shuffle board courts, public comfort stations and other facilities.

Members of various veterans groups, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, United Spanish War Veterans, and such other organizations as grow out of World War II, which has seen a higher percentage of women in the service, would have facilities in the new structure.

The swimming pool and gymnasium would be open to the public and would pay for the building in a few years time, it was pointed out.

WAR CHEST WORK

"That boy" has been away from home a year longer. He has seen with his own eyes the desolation and starvation that enemy oppression means. He has shared his rations with the hungry. Can the comfortable folks at home do less? War Chest contributions mean life to millions of men, women and children in the allied nations and a chance to again sustain themselves.

When you are in need of stationery, commercial or personal, call Torrance 444 or 443.

Community Hall For Pueblo Is Being Planned

At a meeting last Tuesday of a committee chosen by the Torrance Community Council to draw up plans for a social center in the Pueblo district of Torrance, the various requirements of the community were presented, and plans were formed to raise funds to finance the building of a community hall.

Present at the meeting were: Rev. C. J. Wood, chairman; Councilman N. H. Cucci, vice chairman; Mr. Leonard Green, Mr. Kenneth Beight, Mr. Hillman Lee, Mr. Tony Rios, Mrs. Herminia Aloala, Gloria Lucero, Oscar Escobeda, and Alfonso Ordaz.

The floor plan for the community hall as drawn up by Father Wood, included a large social room and a kitchenette, to be erected south of the church. Father Wood has been serving the parish for two years and has long been contemplating the proposed development.

Three Torrance Men at U.S.M.S. Catalina Base

Three Torrance men sailed for Catalina Island this week to begin "boot" training in the U. S. Maritime Service. Richard Olsen, 1558 W. 214th st., Eugene Powell, 2116 Gramercy, and Herman Goettsch, 1329 W. 220th st., were included in the latest local group, according to Lt. (jg) J. F. Grunden, regional enrolling officer at 614 West Sixth st., Los Angeles.

Extensive drilling in the use of life boats, rubber exposure suits (called "zoot suits" by the men), and other modern sea safety equipment, is included in the training. Athletics are also stressed to put the men in top-notch physical condition for their rigorous new life, and a final two-weeks cruise aboard the "American Seafarer." Maritime Service training vessel, will give them their sea legs.

"It's a good deal," the men agreed. "Besides doing our part in the war, we'll be preparing for a post-war career. The Maritime Service offers a swell chance for any man from 17 to 50."

Last year 1,600 women drivers were involved in fatal accidents and 780,000 were involved in all traffic accidents.

Tragedy Strikes Family Preparing For Celebration

Candles were ready at the trailer home of Ray Higginbotham, shipyard worker, at 22211 Dolores st., Keystone Saturday. Marcia, 4, was having a birthday and Higginbotham's wife Laura was baking her an especially big cake. Neighbors clustered around to see the fun. "See if you can find Mary Beth, Wayne," Mrs. Higginbotham told her son, 6. The boy ran to find his 22-month-old sister, who had strayed away during the excitement.

Unable to find her, Wayne called his mother. She discovered the child lying dead under a flower box, which had fallen on her.

ARMY COBBLERS

Army shoe repairers at 37 army installations in the West recently reconditioned 76,912 shoes in one month, the Ninth Service Command Quartermaster announced today at Fort Douglas, Utah.

Virgil C. King Gets Air Medal For Fine Job

Award of the Air Medal to Virgil C. King, 22, chief photographer's mate, USNR, of Lomita, for obtaining vitally important reconnaissance photographs of enemy positions in the Central Pacific last July, was announced today by the Eleventh Naval District.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. King, of 2114 250th st., Lomita, Chief King received the medal from Rear Admiral W. K. Harrell, USN, Commander of Fleet Air, West Coast, in ceremonies at the Naval Air Station, San Diego.

The honored Navy man had been assigned to a carrier-based torpedo plane to obtain low-level photographs of important enemy installations in the vicinity of the Caroline Islands. The citation, signed by Vice Admiral Marc A. Mitscher, USN, commander of famed Task Force 58, declared: "In spite of intense enemy anti-aircraft fire, he succeeded



LOMITAN DECORATED . . . Chief Photographer's Mate Virgil C. King, USNR, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. King of 2114 W. 250th st., is shown as he proudly received from Rear Adm. W. K. Harrell the Air Medal, won for his distinguished work in the Pacific.—(Official U.S. Navy photo)

ally contributed to the success of subsequent missions and operations."

Chief King also participated in the invasion of Guam and obtained reconnaissance photographs at Yap and Ngulu Islands. He was graduated from Narbonne high school, Lomita, and engaged in commercial photography before entering the Navy.

Is your chimney safe? Any chimney which is too warm to hold the hand against with comfort is a fire hazard.

Williamson Is Due Home from Asiatic Theater

Pvt. Paul L. Williamson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Williamson, 2813 Shearer st., Torrance Calif., is due to arrive in the United States soon on furlough from the Asiatic Pacific Theatre of Operations where he served 30 months in the Medical Corps.

Servicemen's stationery? Call Torrance 444 or 443.

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Samba	\$5.00
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An Ideal Christmas GIFT.
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8-cup family size! Perfect gift for a wartime Christmas... practical and appreciated. Beautiful fire-proof glass and heat-proof handle!

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